

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being filed in order to correct a minor antecedent basis problem in claims 13 and 14, and to conform to the claims in the PCT application. Claim 18 has been cancelled, and claims 14 and 16 now depend from claim 13. Claims 19-21, which are repeats of claims 14-16, are added to depend from claims 16, 19 and 14, respectfully. Claims 22-25 are parallel systems claims. Support for the claims are in column 1, lines 1-20, and column 2, lines 40-57. No new matter has been added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the telephone call of August 29, 2002. This preliminary amendment would have been made earlier, but do to the fact that the file was lost, Applicant wanted to wait until it had been found.

Sincerely,



Deborah Blyveis
Reg. No. 47,337

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

In the claims:

Claim 18 has been cancelled.

Claims 13, 14 and 16 have been amended as follows:

13. A knife holder for use with a base defining a pivot point for holding a knife having a first side and a second side, the knife holder comprising:

a first clamping portion adapted to receive the first side of the knife;

a second clamping portion adapted to receive the second side of the knife

and to pivot about [a] said pivot point; and

a clamping mechanism coupled to said second clamping portion and adapted to pivot said second clamping portion about said pivot point for clamping the knife between said first and said second clamping portions, said first clamping portion being fixedly disposed above said base, said second clamping portion being disposed between said first clamping portion and said base, wherein said second clamping portion is adapted to pivot about said pivot point in response to movement of said clamping mechanism.

14. The knife holder of claim 13, ~~18~~ wherein said first clamping portion and said second clamping portion include complementary pinch-off surfaces adapted to be spaced apart in [said] a first relative position, and to make contact in [said] a second relative position wherein, in cooperation with said pivot point, said pinch-off surfaces fixedly maintain said second clamping portion between said first clamping portion and said base.

16. The knife holder of claim 13, ~~18~~ wherein said clamping mechanism includes a threaded fastener having an end, wherein said first clamping portion is adapted to threadingly receive said threaded fastener so that said end extends beyond said first clamping portion for coupling to said second clamping portion.

The following claims have been added:

19. The knife holder of claim 16, wherein said first clamping portion and said second clamping portion include complementary pinch-off surfaces adapted to be spaced apart in a first relative position, and to make contact in a second relative position wherein, in cooperation with said pivot point, said pinch-off surfaces fixedly maintain said second clamping portion between said first clamping portion and said base.

20. The knife holder of claim 19, wherein said pinch-off surfaces are further adapted in said second relative position of said clamping portions to close off open space in the knife holder that is disposed behind the knife.

21. The knife holder of claim 14, wherein said clamping mechanism includes a threaded fastener having an end, wherein said first clamping portion is adapted to threadingly receive said threaded fastener so that said end extends therebeyond for coupling to said second clamping portion.

22. A chipping apparatus comprising:

a disc rotatable in a cutting plane;

a knife holder attached to said disc; and

at least one knife having a first and a second side, said knife holder including a base defining a pivot point, a first clamping portion adapted to receive the first side of the knife, a second clamping portion adapted to receive the second side of the knife and to pivot about said pivot point and a clamping mechanism coupled to said second clamping portion and adapted to pivot said second clamping portion about said pivot point for clamping the knife between said first and said second clamping portions, said first clamping portion being fixedly disposed above said base, said second clamping portion being disposed between said first clamping portion and said base, wherein said second clamping portion is adapted to pivot about said pivot point in response to movement of said clamping mechanism.

23. The knife holder of claim 22, wherein said first clamping portion and said second clamping portion include complementary pinch-off surfaces adapted to be spaced apart in a first relative position, and to make contact in a second relative position wherein, in cooperation with said pivot point, said pinch-off surfaces fixedly maintain said second clamping portion between said first clamping portion and said base.

24. The knife holder of claim 23, wherein said pinch-off surfaces are further adapted in said second relative position of said clamping portions to close off open space in the knife holder that is disposed behind the knife.

25. The knife holder of claim 22, wherein said clamping mechanism includes a threaded fastener having an end, wherein said first clamping portion is adapted to threadingly receive said threaded fastener so that said end extends therebeyond for coupling to said second clamping portion.